

Minutes of ESD Safety Committee Meeting 22 March 2006

Attending: Tim Kneafsey, Seiji Nakagawa, Jil Geller, Rob Connelly, Dominique Joyner, Kryshna Aviña,

Critical Items:

None. Discussion about safety glasses. Some people have not taken heed of wearing safety goggles over their prescription glasses. One person who is in the lab all day, has asked if he could wear his regular prescription glasses, as he does computer work all day within a lab. There is a two-month waiting period for prescription safety glasses. We discussed the fact that prescription glasses are often small, and do not have the rating to protect against impact. We agreed that someone can walk through their lab to get their safety glasses/goggles except in cases where there is activity (like machining or boiling) that may cause materials to impact an eye.

Other Items:

1. **Minutes Approved.** Discussion of last meeting's minutes –
 - a. Rewards for safety – Currently, there are SPOT awards for safety, but the Safety Committee would like to come up with different, more “fun” ways of giving people positive incentives in creating a Culture of Safety within our Division. Follow-up: Jil submitted a SPOT nomination for Pat Dobson.
 - b. Chemical Disposal –Joern has done a great job with disposal of legacy chemicals, which was paid for by the Division. If there is any more need, then Jil should be contacted to see if this could be done again.
2. **Recordable** - There was a leak under one of the sinks in a lab, where the anti-fatigue mat became soaked. Staff stepped on the mat, hydroplaned, and injured their sciatica. At first it was first-aid only, and then became a recordable. There was also a “first-aid” ergo case when someone was cutting chicken wire for an entire day; while it was not a recordable, perhaps the strain could have been avoided by taking more breaks, improved work planning and general ergo awareness for such activities. There was also a first-aid accident when someone hit his or her head against a sharp edge.
3. **Safety Accountability**— The Safety Committee watched a video regarding Safety Accountability. The committee discussed the merits of the video, as well as giving examples of what has been done within ESD on how to improve the Culture of Safety within our Division. The discussion at the Townhall Meeting last January was cited as very favorable. In addition, the question of who people within ESD would name as the person responsible for safety would either name JTG alone, or themselves alone. The Division has to be made aware of the resources available to them in order to have a safer work environment. Will impacting the staffs' PRD's affect the Culture of Safety? What would be the measure of a “good” safety metric? What are the measures, and what are you trying to really measure here? How could this be applied across the board? Someone with field responsibilities has a lot more “burden” than someone who is

stationed within a Lab or who mainly does computer modeling. *Action: The Safety Committee will watch in the next meeting another segment of the of the Safety Accountability presentation. Follow-up: Jil raised the issue of greater EH&S responsibilities born by lab and field staff to Division Council.*

4. **Other issues – None.**